

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 02R00363/PC	FOR FURTHER ACTION see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.	
International application No. PCT/JP 03/10421	International filing date (day/month/year) 18/08/2003	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 23/08/2002
Applicant SHARP KABUSHIKI KAISHA		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 3 sheets.

☒ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

- a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ the international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

- b. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing :

☐ contained in the international application in written form.

☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.

☐ the statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.

☐ the statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished

2. ☐ **Certain claims were found unsearchable** (See Box I).

3. ☐ **Unity of invention is lacking** (see Box II).

4. With regard to the **title**,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the **abstract**,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. The figure of the **drawings** to be published with the abstract is Figure No.

☐ as suggested by the applicant.

☐ because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

☒ because this figure better characterizes the invention.

1
☐ None of the figures.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/JP 03/10421

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 H01L21/203 C30B23/02 H01L33/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 H01L C30B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
P, A	WO 02 103090 A (HOOPER STEWART EDWARD ✓ ; BARNES JENNIFER MARY (GB); BOUSQUET VALERIE) 27 December 2002 (2002-12-27) the whole document ---	1-21
X	WO 02 01608 A (ADVANCED TECH MATERIALS ✓ ; LANDINI BARBARA E (US); KEOGH DAVID M (US) 3 January 2002 (2002-01-03) page 14, line 9-14; claims 1-17, 48, 60, 61, 65, 87, 94-96 ---	1-21
X	EP 1 061 564 A (SHARP KK) ✓ 20 December 2000 (2000-12-20) claims; figures 1, 6 ---	1-21
X	EP 1 164 210 A (SHARP KK) ✓ 19 December 2001 (2001-12-19) paragraphs '0040!', '0044!', '0057!'; claims -----	1-21



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- * & * document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

12 February 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

20/02/2004

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/JP 03/10421

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 02103090	A	27-12-2002	GB 2376563 A WO 02103090 A2	18-12-2002 27-12-2002
WO 0201608	A	03-01-2002	US 6447604 B1 AU 6873001 A EP 1299900 A2 TW 516102 B WO 0201608 A2	10-09-2002 08-01-2002 09-04-2003 01-01-2003 03-01-2002
EP 1061564	A	20-12-2000	GB 2350927 A EP 1061564 A2 JP 2001044123 A US 6440214 B1	13-12-2000 20-12-2000 16-02-2001 27-08-2002
EP 1164210	A	19-12-2001	GB 2363518 A EP 1164210 A2 JP 2002080298 A US 2002015866 A1	19-12-2001 19-12-2001 19-03-2002 07-02-2002